

Region 9 Reuse/Water Use Efficiency Support Needs/Opportunities

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Participants: Smith, Marr, Odusoga, Konner, Kozelka, Marincola, Whitson, and Fondahl, supported by Eberhardt, Louis, Sablad, Li, and Eberhardt in R9 and Gorke and HQ folks outside R9

Needs Assessment

- Conduct outreach to ADEQ, HDOH, and parts of CA to discuss interests in reuse/capture/water use efficiency to ID areas where they are seeking EPA assistance
- Conduct outreach to CASA to identify interests and needs for EPA support
- Continue outreach to support WRAP scope.

Funding

- Inventory how R9 State SRFs view reuse project eligibility under CW and DW SRFs and funded project examples (Connor)
- Discuss importance of funding reuse projects with State SRF managers (Smith, Eberhardt, Konner)
- Pursue waiver for funding diversion structure for water capture (Odusoga)
- Inventory disaster recovery efforts to identify reuse/water use efficiency needs associated with recent R9 fire and typhoons, potential needs associated with earthquake and drought preparedness planning (Marr)
- Coordinate with FEMA and CA OES to publicize opportunities to integrate reuse planning in disaster planning and recovery efforts and associated FEMA grants (Marr and Gorke)
- Coordinate with USDA to identify opportunities to direct USDA grant opportunities to drought resilience planning and projects (Gorke, Marr)

Regulatory Certainty

- Inventory regulatory barriers to reuse in NPDES, TMDL, WQS, and SDWA (Smith, Kozelka, Marincola, Gorke, Li)
- Develop “guidance” discussing existing regulatory flexibility to address these barriers (Smith, Marincola, Kozelka)
- Develop and deliver 1 training course for EPA and State agency NPDES permit writers in 2019 (Kozelka and Smith, with contract assistance if EPM funds available)
- Participate in CA TMDL and NPDES roundtables to discuss permitting challenges/needs for reuse projects
- Participate in NWRI Expert Panel on use of Pretreatment tools to promote source control for difficult-to-treat CECs (Whitson)
- Develop and provide training to state permitting authorities on use of pretreatment to address CECs of concern in reuse (Whitson)
- Develop and provide training to permitting authorities on how to permit biosolids operations that recover energy and/or other resource value from biosolids (Fondahl)
- Participate in CA/SCCWRP/CASA/CASQA project to integrate wastewater and stormwater systems (Smith)

Technical Support

- Water Loss Control program development
 - Assist CA and AZ in WLC program development (Odusoga)

- Discuss R9 needs for support on onsite and distributed systems technology adoption with states, localities (Konner, Marr, Odusoga)

Science/Assessment

- Work with ORD and regional researchers to ID and motivate research on brine disposal and instream flow needs
- Participate in LA River Flow studies to ID optimization of competing demands on LAR (Fleck)

Communications/Outreach

- Update and maintain reuse website (Smith and Marincola)
- Develop reuse outreach model for national WRAP (Smith, Marincola)
- Participate in key reuse-focused convenings in R9 to ascertain support needs and publicize where EPA already helps

Institutional Barriers

- Identify methods for consolidating parts of water/wastewater/stormwater program functions short of full scale consolidation (Smith and Konner with EPM-funded contract assistance)

Small Systems Support

- Assist small systems in developing/implementing asset management systems
 - training- 4Q2019- Odusoga and EFC
 - pilot projects with 2 small communities- Odusoga and EFC
- Assist small systems in identifying appropriate reuse opportunities and planning vehicles, including exploration of onsite and distributed treatment system options (Konner)